

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCA-01 L-03 VO-03 NSC-10 PPT-02 RSC-01

DRC-01 CPR-02 /038 W

----- 032018

R 050800Z NOV 73

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 933

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 1329

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CGEN, PFOR, CH

SUBJECT: US/PRC CONSULAR AFFAIRS

REF: (A) STATE 209512 (B) STATE 193113

1. USLO OFFICERS MET WITH LIU CHING-YU AND LIN YUNG-PING, DIVISION CHIEFS OF CONSULAR DEPARTMENT OF MFA, ON 2 NOV. BLACKBURN FIRST ASKED THE CHINESE IF THEY HAD RECEIVED USLO NOTE DESIGNATING HIM AS OFFICIAL TO PERFORM CONSULAR FUNCTIONS ALONG WITH HIS OTHER DUTIES AND DID CONSULAR DEPARTMENT AGREE THAT HE DO SO. LIU ANSWERED AND WE QUOTE:

2. "WE HAVE RECEIVED THE NOTE OF USLO NOTIFYING US MR. BLACKBURN WILL HANDLE CONSULAR AFFAIRS IN ADDITION TO HIS OTHER DUTIES. THIS IS THE RESULT OF DISCUSSIONS HELD BETWEEN DEPUTY DIRECTOR TIEN PING AND MR. HOLDRIDGE OF USLO DURING THE LAST FEW MONTHS. ON OUR SIDE, FROM NOW ON WE WILL EXCHANGE OPINIONS ON CONSULAR AFFAIRS AND WILL WORK TOGETHER IN A SPIRIT OF COOPERATION."

3. WE CONSIDER THIS A CHINESE "YES" AND REQUEST THAT ON THE BASIS ON THIS ANSWER DEPARTMENT NOW RPT NOW AUTHORIZED OUR COMMENCING CONSULAR FUNCTIONS HERE.

4. BLACKBURN ASKED THE CHINESE FOR 12 MONTHS MULTIPLE EXIT
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ENTRY VISAS FOR USLO PERSONNEL BASED ON THE PRINCIPLE OF

RECIPROCITY. HE NOTED THE US SIDE HAS BEEN ISSUING PRC/LO PERSONNEL WITH THIS TYPE OF VISA FOR SOME TIME AS WELL AS PERMITTING THEM TO EXTEND THEIR VISITORS' VISAS WITHOUT LEAVING THE COUNTRY. THIS LATTER POINT WAS A SPECIAL PRIVILEGE FOR PRC/LO DESIGNED TO FACILITATE THEIR WORK. LIU ANSWERED THAT HE WOULD REPORT THE MATTER TO SUPERIORS (LING DAO REN).

5. BLACKBURN RAISED THE QUESTION OF AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS FROM THE CHINESE SIDE FOR CHINESE WHO ARE SEEKING IMMIGRANT VISAS AND WHO NEEDED THESE DOCUMENTS TO SUPPORT THEIR CLAIMS OF FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS. THE CHINESE SAID THEY WOULD RAISE THIS MATTER WITH SUPERIORS.

6. THE CHINESE ASKED AGAIN ABOUT THE STATUS OF THE COURIER SITUATION (REF B). USLO APOLOGIZED AND SAID THERE HAD BEEN NO ANSWER FROM WASHINGTON YET. WE REQUEST DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE REPLY.

7. FINALLY, TO DEMONSTRATE THE TIGHT STRING THESE CHINESE COUNTERPARTS ARE ATTACHED TO, USLO OFFICER AT THE CLOSE OF THE MEETING ASKED THE CHINESE FOR A TELEPHONE NUMBER AT WHICH CHINESE WOULD BE CONVENIENTLY REACHED TO DISCUSS MINOR MATTERS NOT REQUIRING A FORMAL MEETING. THE CHINESE ANSWERED AFTER A BRIEF PAUSE -- WE WILL PHONE YOU BACK AND LET YOU KNOW. UNDOUBTEDLY THE CHINESE ARE SEEKING THE APPROVAL OF "THE SUPERIORS." THEY HAVE NOT CALLED BACK TO DATE.

8. MEMCON FOLLOWS BY POUCH.
BRUCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONSULAR MEETINGS, CONSULAR RELATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: collinp0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PEKING01329
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: PEKING
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731154/aaaabnxj.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) STATE 209512 (B) STATE 193113
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: collinp0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25-Jul-2001 by kellew0>; APPROVED <06 MAR 2002 by collinp0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US/PRC CONSULAR AFFAIRS
TAGS: CGEN, PFOR, CH
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005